

COUNTERFEITER'S TRICKS.

Bogus Money and the Ways, New and Old, for Shoving the Queer.

A Merchant Taken in by a Supposed Drunken Man and a Broken Glass.

Dishonest Merchants Swindle Themselves in the Effort to Over-Reach Make-Believe Imbriates.

Several merchants sat chatting around a table at Delmonico's the other night and their conversation drifted upon counterfeit money, and the methods, new and old, which those who "shove the queer," as the rogues say, have of imposing upon their victims, says the New York Tribune.

"I must tell you what happened to me not long ago," said one. "A drunken man came tottering along the sidewalk and fell heavily against one of our smaller plate glass windows. The clerks rushed out and grabbed him, and the shock seemed to sober him somewhat. He was inclined to be impertinent, however, and said we'd better send for a policeman, as he'd like nothing better than a term on the island, now that cold weather was coming on. I said I did not care a rap what became of him; what I wanted was pay for my broken glass. He declared he had not a cent in the world, at the same time turning his trousers pockets inside out to show how empty they were. I noticed that he buttoned up his coat, however, in a suspicious manner, and something about him gave me the impression that he was lying.

"What have you got in your waistcoat pocket," I said, "turn them out, too." "I haven't got a penny, I tell you," he replied, angrily, as he tried to jerk away from the two clerks who were holding him. "Send for a cop, I say," he added, "that's all you're right to do. You haven't got no right to search my pockets and take my money; besides, I haven't got none."

"By this time I felt sure he had some, and, as having him locked up for disorderly conduct was not going to me any good and was evidently just the thing he wanted, I resolved to disappoint him. So I began to go through his waistcoat pockets, and in a little while I found, in the lining, what should I find but an old \$20 bill. The tramp set up a howl of rage and imprecation when I took the bill and gave him back eight big silver dollars, but we freed him out of the shop and he disappeared down the street.

"When my bookkeeper took that bill with the rest of the day's receipts over to the bank that afternoon it was promptly returned to him as a dangerous counterfeit. Imagine my disgust and how my clerks grinned. And I don't even believe I could prosecute the rascal, for he certainly made no attempt to pass the money on me. In fact, I passed it on myself."

"Well, that is a pretty good joke on you, old man," said another of the party, "and I never heard of that particular trick before, though it somewhat resembles one that is played now and again on merchants who are suspected of being dishonest. I saw it done myself once, in a store where I was calling to sell goods in the days when I was a drummer. A drunken man came along, as in your case, between daylight and dark, just before the lamps, kerosene in those days, were lighted. He bought some tobacco, and then began a slow and lumbering search through his pockets for change. From one he pulled out a crumpled bill, looked at it a while and then continued the search for so long that the merchant became impatient.

"Give me the bill, then," he said testily. "I'll change it for you."

"Sh! my lash two dollar," he roared, the imbricate, "and don't want changer."

"All right," snapped the merchant, as he grabbed the parcel of tobacco from the man's feeble grasp; and threw it back into the drawer with a bang, "when you find your change let me know, and I'll give you the parcel. I can't wait all day on you."

"Now, don't get 'excited,' of 'fel,'" said the man, "take the bill. Shiny lash two dollar, but take it," and he threw down on the counter a bill that you could see plainly, even in the dim light of the store, was a \$1. The crafty merchant saw the mistake in a jiffy and looked at me sharply out of the corner of his eye. I thought it was none of my business anyway and pretended not to have noticed anything. So old skindint swept the bill into his drawer, made change for two dollars, and got his bibulous customer out of the store as quickly as possible.

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St. Paul, Atlantic ex., St. Paul and east, 11:25 a. m.

Montana, Pacific ex., Butte and south, 4:00 p. m.

Helena and Butte ex., Butte and south, 8:15 a. m.

Marquette ex., 4:10 p. m.

Marquette ex., 7:30 a. m.

ARRIVE.

St. Paul, Atlantic ex., Butte and south, 11:25 a. m.

Montana, Pacific ex., St. Paul and east, 3:45 p. m.

Helena and Butte ex., Butte and south, 6:30 p. m.

Marquette ex., 10:00 a. m.

Marquette ex., 6:40 p. m.

Northern Pacific.

ARRIVE.

Through westbound, 2:50 p. m.

Through eastbound, 7:20 p. m.

Butte, Missoula and Helena ex., 12:20 p. m.

Marquette passenger, 8:40 a. m.

Rimini accom., Mon., Wed. and Fri., 5:00 p. m.

Wicks and Boulder passenger, 10:25 a. m.

Marquette accommodation, 3:00 p. m.

DEPART.

Through westbound, 3:10 p. m.

Through eastbound, 7:45 p. m.

Helena, Missoula and Butte ex., 7:45 a. m.

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